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ENTERED AT THE POSTOFFICE AS SECOND-CLASS MATTER.

SATURDAY, - - - DECEMBER 18.

A waiter in a Brussels hotel has found some of the mail stolen in Belgium from the American packages of registered letters.

Senator Beck has hammered the corporation attorneys in the Senate heavily, but in the last few days seems to let up on them a little.

Senator Edmunds is now blatant against the "Kingly power" which he thinks would be conferred on the President by repealing the tenure of office act.

The navy has received a hard hit from Senators who caused that bill to be passed allowing owners of American vessels to sue the United States officers commanding ships that collide with the aforesaid merchant vessels when the fault is on the side of the navy.

At the dinner given him in Paris on Thursday by the Bartholdi Statue Committee, our Minister—Mr. McLane—said in his response that French Huguenots and other Frenchmen were established in America before English civilization was planted there, and they had left their names to places, testifying to the extent and persistence of French influence.

The mock Duke of Dakota, Governor Mellette, has proclaimed the theory that a Territory without regard to any recognition by the rest of the country or the Government, can make itself a State, and the Legislature of the southern section of Dakota listened to this and approved it. "My sword gets between my legs like a monkey's tail," said the mock duke in the play.

Mr. Dillon in carrying out the plan of collecting rents by trustees was arrested on Thursday at Loughrea. He struggled with Inspector Davies for possession of the rent money seized by the latter. It is rumored that the police have been instructed to pursue a similar course in the case of other Nationalist rent collectors. The National League leaders have decided to continue their present tactics. Several of them will leave Dublin for various parts of Ireland for the purpose of receiving rents. Mr. Dillon has obtained a cross-summons against Inspector Davies for assault.

Mr. Cleveland says that the Indians are surrounded by civilization and ought to be civilized to the arts of husbandry instead of fed by the Government, which certainly might apply to those of the red men who enjoy the happy proximity to Salt Lake. The five civilized tribes reach the high-water mark of Indian attainment. Mr. Atkins assures us that they have among them men of unusual talent, men "competent to be Representatives and Senators in Congress." If this seems incredible, listen to the proof: The Ouachita Valley "is cultivated by white labor largely, with Chickasaw landlords." There is one farm in the valley of eight thousand acres, another of four thousand, and very many of several hundreds owned by Indians.

The House has passed a bill authorizing the Secretary of the Interior to allot reservation lands to the Indians in severalty, which is a great step forward in the direction of changing and developing the condition of the Indians.

JEFFERSONIAN DEMOCRACY.

It is quite remarkable that in the State that gave to the modern world the great prophet of Democracy and popular freedom, party leaders should stray so far from his principles, and attempt to erect a policy for a party on ideas at variance with the fundamental doctrine.

Nevertheless, we have that mistake stamped on the acts of the State authorities.

Jefferson was a States-rights Democrat but he, as President, made clear the necessity of certain powers in the Federal Government, and at the head of a long line of statesmen he displayed the highest theory of the popular representation of the innate power of the people in a Government capable of exercising centralized authority that could be changed to other hands by the easy process of the next election, if the representatives did not formulate acts according to the accepted principles.

In Virginia we feel all this entirely beyond temporary ideas of what local sovereignty might claim in the interest of any clique.

We feel that free thought is the soul of Democratic government, and after the experience of Mahone bossism the people will not stand any ring-made platform unless it agrees with the true principles.

If it is true that there is a popular prejudice against a debt settlement, it is the duty of patriotic men to show the fallacy of fostering such a prejudice by misrepresentation of official figures, and of "boycotting" people who wish to exercise a right under the law.

It is not Democratic to bulldoze the citizen by manufactured sentiment and denounce him as an enemy of the State because he differs in opinion with the party managers.

It is not Democratic to assert that the Riddleberger act is a settlement, because it is not, and every body who looks at the facts clearly must know it.

It is not Democratic to put the State in opposition to the Federal Government, because that experiment was tried, and nobody wishes to try it again, in war or in the courts.

DAMAGES FOR NEGLIGENCE.

Judge Barclay, of the St. Louis Criminal Court in the case of a suit for damages against the Telegraph Company for not delivering a message promptly, instructed the jury as follows:

"All that need be stated concerning such a stipulation is that, so far as it seems to exempt the Telegraph Company from the consequences of its own negligence it is against public policy, and entirely void and of no effect. There will, therefore, be a finding in favor of the plaintiff."

Judge Barclay will receive the popular approval due to a good and wise judge.

WHO IS HURT?

The extraordinary array of losses in Wall street would make the ingenious reader, who knows naught of bulls and bears think that the country was shaken all to pieces by a financial earthquake, and yet the *World* serenely remarks:

"From \$40,000,000 to \$50,000,000 in values were apparently wiped out of existence by the decline in prices of stocks in Wall street on Wednesday, and yet not one cent's worth of actual property was destroyed and the country is not a whit the poorer. Those who have been speculating on margins are the ones mainly affected, and the greatest sufferer is the outside public which has ventured into the 'Street.'"

The Knights of Labor had a cold day on Thursday. The glassblowers of Baltimore are about to withdraw and resume their connection with the New Jersey League. In Pittsburg the *Labor Tribune* says:

"The popular vote of the members of the Amalgamated Association of Iron and Steel Workers on the proposition of General Master Workman Powderly to join the Knights of Labor, so far as heard from up to Saturday last, shows that ninety-nine per cent. are opposed to affiliation."

The following order of the Secretary of the Treasury is doubtless meant to put out a good sum of money and help the stringency on the money market, caused by the reported panic of Wednesday.

He has directed the payment, without rebate, of the interest due January 1, 1887, on United States bonds of the loan of 1907, amounting to about \$900,000, and also the interest on the bonds issued to the Pacific Railroad Company upon the presentation of the coupon and interest checks at the Treasury in Washington or at any sub-treasury.

Judge Edwards, of the St. Louis County Circuit Court, in the Klein-Valliant contest issued a writ calling upon Receiver Hoblitzell to open the ballot-boxes and recount the votes.

SPECIAL AND PERSONAL.

Comstock says that the publishing of such matter as the details of the Campbell divorce case ought to be indictable by the grand jury, in the interest of decency.

The poet Walt Whitman says that he is not in need of charity. It would be a compliment to the taste and morals of the country if he were, for his rhymes are bad and his affectation of skill absurd.

The American Opera Company is passing through a Lyric disturbance that would do for another Hogarth's enraged musician. Theodore Thomas has resigned, and Miss Juch has left the gay bevy of warblers. Miss Laura Moore will now be Marguerite in place of Juch.

Major Ackerman, of the New York Malish, has been court-martialed for calling his colonel "a thing." This is discipline, for whether the colonel is a chattel or not is no business of his subordinates. Their only duty is to obey, &c., especially when they are ordered to death or glory.

The lawyers who showed the jury how to convict McQuade are enjoying a boom in New York, in which Colonel Fellows has a big part. This was the orator who voiced the Cleveland boom at Chicago, under the able management of Dan Manning, who was the "coach" and director.

"Tell it not in Gath!" Chicago persons have witnessed a ballet and enjoyed it. But why shouldn't they? The ballet when artistically done is an exquisitely beautiful thing, representing music in the poetry of motion, and when graceful and aesthetic there is nothing wrong about it.

The French steamer *La Bourgoyne* which can steam in the ocean twenty miles an hour came into New York Thursday so completely encased in ice that she looked like a specimen iceberg and the crew like Arctic explorers. She had gone through a tough trial and the account of her adventures is a pretty romance. The passengers were all the happier to get on dry land, and appeared in high spirits.

Anthony Comstock seized a pumpkin that was on exhibition in a clothier's, and thinks he has got at a lottery. The customer of the house guessing nearest to the number of seeds in the pumpkin was to have got the prize.

Comstock ought to seize that cabbage that Miss Cleveland advertises in her poem as the bane of "herbivorous" man.

George W. Childs, in contributing \$500 to the monuments to Paul Hayne and Wilde, says:

"The sweet and touching verses of Wilde (accomplished scholar and statesman, as well as poet) have been familiar to me since my boyhood; and Hayne's genius we all know and admire, even in his trumpet calls to his Southern countrymen in a cause to which he was devoted, but which, in common with his Northern countrymen, I held to be wrong."

Gents' \$4.00 slippers reduced to \$2.00 at Spence, Tyree & Co.'s, No. 815 East Broad street.

Von Moltke's Opinion of Sheridan.

A number of military gentlemen were discussing in New York the other day the respective abilities of our different soldiers during the late war. Reference was made to what the Germans think of our prominent commanders. An officer told a story about somebody conversing with Von Moltke—some American who insisted on categorical answers. He kept saying to Von Moltke that Sherman was a great general. Von Moltke would shrug and give no indorsement. The American mentioned Sheridan. "Ah," said Von Moltke, "there is a general." The American again insisted that Sherman was a great man in the field. "Ah," said Von Moltke, with another shrug, "Sheridan is a general." Said he: "Did he not think Sherman was a great marcher and fighter?"

"Well, the German strategist meant to criticize, probably, Sherman's campaign to the sea. If he had ever met an enemy in his route he would have been annihilated. He went off to the sea on a kind of brilliant guess that he could communicate with the fleet there. Behind him the rebels were invading the north, passing almost through Tennessee. Sherman did connect, and the affair looks very brilliant on our pages, but no precise, mathematical minded general would indorse a movement like that. Certainly Von Moltke would not."—"Gath" in Cincinnati Enquirer.

Apaches Dying Off.

Advice from Florida say that the Apache prisoners are dying off at a rapid rate, owing to the climate, and perhaps their own uncleanness. There are 454 bucks, squaws and paposes in the fort.—Chicago Times.

The Martyr of the Civil War.

"I think I have suffered more at the hands of the southerners than any man I ever knew," said a G. A. R. man the other day. "I was seven times wounded, was imprisoned at Andersonville for a year, had my house burned at Gettysburg and married a southern widow.—Exchange.

Favorite Instruments.

For an old maid, the piano forty; for the burglar, the lute; for the commercial traveler, the drum; for the farmer, the hoe boy; for the country hotel, the vile inn; for the Freemasons, the symbols; for the pawnbroker, the Jew's harp; for the politician, the organ; for lovers, the month harmonica.—Waif.

Tall Tower Hats.

Some of the fashion journals are in a quandary. The altitude of the winter hats offered for illustration makes it necessary either to lengthen the columns of the paper or reduce the scale of the drawings.—Buffalo Express.

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